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MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE CHICAGO SECTION A. S. P.

The *seventh* regular meeting of the Chicago Section was held June 15, 1891, at the Kenwood Physical Observatory. The occasion had been selected for the dedication of the Observatory, and a number of invited guests were present. Mr. G. A. DOUGLASS presided, and after a few remarks, introduced Prof. C. A. YOUNG, who had made the journey from Princeton in order to be present at the dedication. Prof. YOUNG made a very interesting address, in which he referred to the great importance of spectroscopic investigations in astronomy, and spoke of the physical observatories at Potsdam and Meudon, and those in this country formerly directed by Dr. RUTHERFURD and Dr. DRAPER. He described the recent photographic studies of prominences and their spectra made at the Kenwood Observatory, and pointed out their connection with his own observations made at Mount Sherman.

Other speeches were made by Prof. G. W. HOUGH of the Dearborn Observatory, Mr. J. A. BRASHEAR of Allegheny, Mr. J. W. SCOTT of the *Chicago Herald*, President E. D. EATON of Beloit College, Dr. H. H. BELFIELD of the Chicago Manual Training School, Prof. S. I. CURTISS, Rev. E. L. WILLISTON, Rev. Dr. E. F. WILLIAMS and Rev. FRANK GATES.

The following have been proposed for membership in the A. S. P. and Chicago Section:

WILLIAM HOSKINS, Lagrange, Cook County, Ill.

J. H. KEDZIE, Evanston, Ill.

Prof. MALCOLM MCNEILL, Lake Forest University, Lake Forest, Ill.

GEORGE E. HALE, *Secretary.*

MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE CHICAGO SECTION A. S. P.

Held on Tuesday evening, July 14, 1891, at Dearborn Observatory, Evanston, Ill., the chairman, Mr. GAYTON A. DOUGLASS, presiding.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. A. C. BEHR called attention to doubts expressed by Dr. KLEIN, as to estimates of the mass of *Arcturus*, based on its parallax as given by Dr. ELKIN.

Prof. HOUGH said in substance, that while, theoretically, stellar parallaxes as small as $\frac{1}{10}$ second might be detected and that the mean of a large number of observations would leave the probable error at a minimum, yet, practically, unavoidable personal error much exceeded that amount, and rendered the result uncertain by much more than $\frac{1}{10}$ second.

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Mr. BEHR, Prof. HOUGH and Mr DOUGLASS showed by lime-light a large number of excellent lantern-slides from lunar, solar and stellar photos and drawings—also a lantern-slide of the great Aztec calendar-stone—of which a brief description and account was given.

Applications for membership in the A. S. P. and the Chicago Section thereof, were received from

JOHN P. HELY, C. E., 418 Claremont Avenue.

T. A. HAGERTY, 537 Belden Avenue.

KIRK HIMROD, 150 Lincoln Avenue.

All of Chicago, Ill.

For the remainder of the evening Prof. HOUGH courteously gave the society members the use of the large telescope of the Observatory.

R. W. PIKE, *Acting Secretary.*